"ApuKan baronage" was made impossible; the handful of adventurers, Norman, French, Italian, who followed the Count were made aware that it was Roger's hand which conferred favours. Two great enfeoffrnents of Sicily took place in 1072 and 1091, but no single fief of any great extent was granted, nor were any dangerous privileges conceded* As a result Sicily, whose insular position itself favoured the power of government, remained, under him and his immediate successor, as free of feudal revolts as Apulia was agitated by them.

The Count was faced by the fact that Sicily was a meeting place of races, civilisations, and tongues, On this fact he built a system of government in which power was based on the toleration of free intermingling of elements which could not be combined by force; it was a policy of necessity but it is to the credit of the first Roger that he saw the need,

Two races in the main were in occupation of Sicily, the Greeks and the Moslems, The Greeks were in possession of the churches, and the Christianity of the island owed no allegiance to Rome, The Count gave full liberty of worship and internal autonomy to the Orthodox bishops

and abbots, on the other hand they acknowledged in him the authority which the Basileus had formerly pos- over the election and deposing of bishops.

The civilisation of the Byzantines was left un- disturbed; Greek remained an official language along with Latin and Arabic,